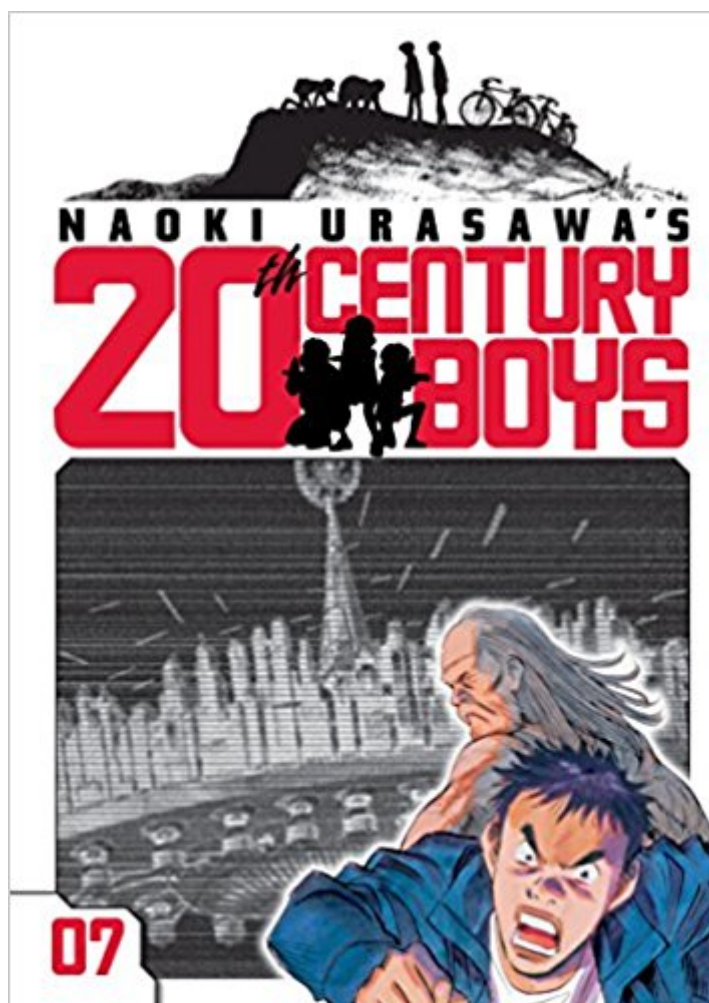


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# Naoki Urasawa's 20th Century Boys, Vol. 7



## Synopsis

This is the story of a group of boys who try to save the world!; As boys, Kenji and his friends came up with a bunch of stories about an evil organization bent on world destruction. As adults, someone is now turning their fantasies into reality! R to L (Japanese Style). This is the story of a group of boys who try to save the world!; As boys, Kenji and his friends came up with a bunch of stories about an evil organization bent on world destruction. As adults, someone is now turning their fantasies into reality! Out in the middle of Tokyo Bay, a man called Shogun is trying to break out of Umihotaru Prison, a maximum-security island fortress, so he can save the world. Accompanied by a frightened young manga artist, these two men are prepared to risk everything as their daring escape plan grows deadlier by the minute. However, the prison authorities will do whatever it takes to return Shogun and his reluctant companion to custody. Shogun's ultimate goal: Tokyo, where a girl he calls the "final hope" lives, but a murder in Kabuki-cho has triggered a chain reaction of terror. Can Shogun reveal the truth about the false peace created by the Friends? And what are the facts behind the disaster that took place in the final moments of the 20th century?!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Born in Tokyo in 1960, Naoki Urasawa's career as a manga artist spans three decades and has firmly established him as one of the true manga masters of his generation. A graduate of Meisei University, Urasawa debuted with *Return!* in 1981 and hasn't stopped his impressive output since. Well-versed in a variety of genres, Urasawa's oeuvre encompasses a multitude of different subjects,

such as romantic comedies (Yawara! A Fashionable Judo Girl), gritty urban dramas (Pineapple ARMY), swashbuckling detective stories (Master Keaton), captivating psychological thrillers (Monster and 20th Century Boys) and modern reinterpretations of the work of the God of Manga, Osamu Tezuka (Pluto: Urasawa ã— Tezuka). Many of his books have spawned equally popular animated series, and 2008 saw the theatrical release of the first of three live-action Japanese films based on 20th Century Boys. No stranger to accolades and awards, Urasawa has received the Kodansha Manga Award, and is a three-time recipient of the prestigious Shogakukan Manga Award and a two-time recipient of the Osamu Tezuka Cultural Prize. Similarly, Monster has been nominated twice for the Eisner Award in America. Urasawa has also become involved in the world of academia, and in 2008 accepted a guest teaching post at Nagoya Zokei University, where he teaches courses in, of course, manga. Combining a breathtaking cinematic visual style with stories known for their penetrating psychological depth and maturity, Naoki Urasawa remains one of the most exciting creators working in the medium of comics today.

20th Century Boys, Vol. 7: The Truth starts out with Shogun and Kakuta attempting to break out of prison in 2014. Then, also in the futuristic 2014, it skips to an all-new storyline involving Kyoko, who is possibly a classmate of Kanna. Both Kakuta and Kyoko want to know the truth about Bloody New Year's Eve. Finally, after books of waiting, the story of what happened that night unfolds. This volume and the volumes preceding it swayed a little too far from the main story for my liking, and by the time it came back to the story of Bloody New Year's Eve, I wasn't as interested. Still, all the scenes are great, and Urasawa is fantastic at making believable, relevant, and engaging characters and situations. I was genuinely surprised by the return to December 31, 2000, as I was expecting the 2014 story to go on indefinitely. \*\*\*\*

Volume 7 of "20th Century Boys" focuses on the present time (in the book - year 2014) and is a Otcho-driven storyline as he tries to escape from prison, meanwhile manga artist Kakuta learns more and more from Otcho of what took place on New Year's Eve 2000. The seventh volume also introduces us to a new character named Kyoko Koizumi who chooses to write about Kenji and meets Kamisama who also tells her of what happened back then. This latest volume continues where vol. 5 left off and gives us insight on what transpired on New Years Eve 2000 as Kenji and friends tried to put a stop to the Friends. Giving us insight to why Otcho and Kamisama look up to Kenji as a hero and how intent he was in stopping them but also a tragedy that hit Kenji and friends on that day. If anything, the story of what took place on New Year's Eve 2000 is just beginning and

will continue in the vol. 8 but for the most part, this volume is action driven in the sense that the chapters focus on Otcho and Kakuta's escape from prison. Needless to say, readers are being setup for something huge and I definitely can't wait for the next volume. Overall, a gripping and exciting seventh volume of Naoki Urasawa's "20th CENTURY BOYS". If you haven't started already and you are looking for a deep, well-drawn, well-written manga series, Naoki Urasawa's "20th CENTURY BOYS" is highly recommended!

One of the best volumes so far (from 1 - 7) of this amazing series. This volume introduces a few new characters who are quite interesting and are important later on. But what I really found interesting is that this volume starts to shed light on the events of Bloody New Years 2000. I won't give anything away, but things are not what they seem (of course). And the rest of the night is explained in the next issue, volume 8. It's a great series and as an adult, I found it quite engaging and thought provoking. Volumes 7 and 8 were so riveting I couldn't put them down! Highly recommended. Just start with volume one to avoid major spoilers!

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